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NIP-216

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: T. HORIE et al.  
Serial No.: 09/775,575  
Filed: February 5, 2001  
For: ANSWER SYSTEM FOR TECHNICAL SUPPORT, AND  
TECHNICAL SUPPORT METHOD  
Group: 2167  
Examiner: L. Black

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**March 12, 2007**

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and copies of the non-patent document listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted after the mailing date of a final action but before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by the fee of \$180.00 set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p).

To the extent the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English language abstract and a translation of the documents.

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It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Mattingly, Stanger, Malur & Brundidge, Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (referencing attorney docket no. NIP-216) please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gene W. Stockman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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**FORM PTO-1449** U.S. Department of  
Commerce (Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark  
Office

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

**NIP-216**

SERIAL NO.

**09/775,575**

APPLICANT

**T. HORIE et al.**

FILING DATE

**February 5, 2001**

GROUP

**2167**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	ABSTRACT	
						YES	NO
	<b>JP 10-269293</b>	<b>10/1998</b>	<b>JAPAN</b>			<b>X</b>	
	<b>JP 11-250130</b>	<b>09/1999</b>	<b>JAPAN</b>			<b>X</b>	
	<b>JP 10-207902</b>	<b>08/1998</b>	<b>JAPAN</b>				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.